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ARMED DRUG DEALER APPREHENDED AFTER HIGH SPEED PURSUIT AND CONFRONTATION WITH OFFICERS SENTENCED TO 18 YEARS PRISON

SACRAMENTO--United States Attorney McGregor W. Scott announced today that DAVID BRIAN TAYLOR, (age 40), of 2224 East Market Street, Stockton, CA, was sentenced today by United States District Judge Frank C. Damrell, Jr. to 18 years in federal prison. The defendant pled guilty to being a convicted felon in possession of a firearm, to possession with the intent to distribute cocaine base, and to carrying a firearm during and in relation to a drug trafficking offense.

This case is the product of an investigation by the Stockton Police Department with the assistance of the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives. It was prosecuted in Federal Court as part of Project Exile, a program to discourage convicted felons from possessing firearms.

According to the facts as set forth in the plea agreement, late in the evening on September 29, 2004, Stockton Police Department (SPD) Officers were responding to a call concerning a person dealing drugs out of a silver Mustang near the corner of Hunter and E. Church Streets in Stockton. When officers got to the location, nobody was in, or near, the car. As they were calling in the license plates to determine the registered owner and whether it had been reported stolen, defendant DAVID BRIAN TAYLOR walked up and opened the driver's

side door to get in. The SPD officers asked if they could speak to him and he mumbled no and proceeded to get into the car. The officers ordered him to stop but he sped off down the road with his lights out. The officers gave chase in their vehicles with lights and sirens activated.

A high speed chase ensued. The defendant's vehicle finally slowed down, but then the defendant bailed out of his still moving car and started running (after which the unoccupied vehicle ran into a parked car). The officers chased the defendant on foot and, as one of the officers almost caught up to him, the defendant stopped, turned towards the officer, and proceeded to fight with the officer as he attempted to take the defendant into custody. A second and third officer arrived. While they attempted to subdue the defendant, he pulled a loaded .38 caliber Smith & Wesson revolver out of his pants with his right hand. One of the officers struck the defendant's right hand several times until the defendant let go of the gun.

After the defendant was subdued and handcuffed, the officers found a total of 33 bindles of crack cocaine (on his person, in his fanny pack, or on the ground where the defendant had been taken into custody) with each bindle weighing an average of .25 grams. The officers also found 12 bindles of heroin (on his person, in the fanny pack, or on the ground where the defendant had been taken into custody).

According to Assistant United States Attorney Richard Bender, who prosecuted the case, at the sentencing hearing Judge Damrell stated that the defendant's extensive criminal record and the gravity of the offense conduct mandated the lengthy sentence the he imposed.

"The defendant is a deserving recipient of the severe punishment handed down. David Taylor is a gun-toting drug dealer who endangered the lives of the brave officers who apprehended him," said United States Attorney Scott.

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